

May 13, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Docket #98N-1038, Irradiation in the Production, Processing and Handling
of Food

Gentlemen:

All foods and ingredients in processed and package foods that have been irradiated should include the words irradiated and/or irradiation and the symbol that indicates irradiation has taken place should be displayed.

If the words irradiation or irradiated are not on labels along with the symbol the label would be misleading because irradiation destroys vitamins and causes changes in sensory and spoilage qualities that are not obvious or expected by the consumer.

Not only should whole foods be labeled, but also I repeat all ingredients in packaged and processed foods be identified as irradiated. The absence of this statement on the label would be misleading.

Furthermore the labeling should remain on labels as long as foods are irradiated. There should be no expiration of the labeling in the future.

Sincerely,



Mary Cleveland Goodman
1454 Roxbury Drive
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cc: Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Representative Julian Dixon

98N-1038

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